

03560.002997.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
Kotaro AKUTSU et al.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2812
Application No.: 10/090,149)	
	:	
Filed: March 5, 2002)	
	:	
For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS)	May 20, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

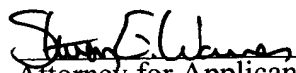
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicants request that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,




Attorney for Applicants
Steven E. Warner
Registration No. 33,326

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

SEW/cab

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) May 20, 2002		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03560.002997	APPLICATION NO. 10/090,149
		APPLICANT Kotaro AKUTSU et al.	
		FILING DATE March 5, 2002	GROUP 2812

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,715,604	02/03/1998	Lin	356	401	
	5,858,587	01/12/1999	Yamane et al.	430	22	
	5,864,389	01/26/1999	Osanai et al.	355	53	
	5,939,852	08/17/1999	Akutsu et al.	318	640	
	6,008,882	12/28/1999	Itoh et al.	355	53	
	6,285,444	09/04/2001	Osanai et al.	355	72	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.